THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) As per the information received from the Government of Gujarat, they have registered 987 cases during the year 1990.

(b) and (c) No such proposal is under consideration.

Revision of salary and time limit under E.P.F. Scheme, 1952

824. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently revised the Salary time limit for coverage of employees under the Employees Provident Fund Scheme, 1952;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and whether the various Chambers/ Unions and other concerned parties were consulted by Government before taking such decision; if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether procedures for crediting, transfer, withdrawal loan/final settlement etc. of Employees' Provident Fund were simplified under the revised scheme and beneficial to the casual workers; and

(d) the amount lying with Government in Provident Fund till date which is "unclaimed" by the workers and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The wage limit for coverage of employees has been enhanced from Rs .2500/- to Rs. 3500/- per month. The qualifying period of service for becoming member of the fund has been done away altogether and the employees have been made eligible for membership from the date of joining service. These changes have been made on the recommendation of the Central Board of Trustees, Employees Provident Fund, which is a tripartite body consisting of representatives of the Organisations of Employers, Employees and the Government.

(c) There has been no further simplification consequent on enforcement of the above-mentioned changes.

(d) As on 31-3-1990, the amount of provident fund money lying unclaimed i.e. the amount for which no claim has been preferred within a period of three years from the date the claim became payable was Rs. 70.58 crores. The amount has remain undisbursed mainly due to non-receipt of claims from the concerned subscribers or their nominees or their legal representatives or the amount remitted having been received back undelivered.

Permission to import computer system for training purpose

825. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently decided to permit import of computer system for the purpose of training by recognised training institutions;

(b) if so, whether the import of computer system would have an adverse affect on the indigenous computer manufacturers; and

(c) if so, in what manner Government would ensure that the import of computers is not engaged as a commercial activity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) to (c) A scheme for import of computer system for training purposes by training institutions recognised by the Department of Electronics, has been announced vide